



Michigan Crop Weather

Seasonable Temperatures

Five days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 11, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.16 inches in the northeastern Lower Peninsula to 1.02 inches in the southwestern Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 3 degrees below normal in the western Upper Peninsula to normal in the northwestern, northeastern, west central, central, southwestern, and southeastern Lower Peninsula. Temperatures this week allowed planting to progress at a brisk pace, but emergence was slow due to cool temperatures and soils. A farmer stated, “cool weather has seemed to have a delaying effect on the emergence of the crops planted thus far.” While a number of fields are damp, some farmers welcomed the rains over the weekend. “Conditions are still very dry for this area. Some light rain and cooler temperatures over the weekend will put some moisture back in the ground,” a farmer in the Thumb region reported.

Field Crops

The weather was excellent for planting this past week, but cooler temperatures slowed emergence of many crops. **Corn** planting was nearly complete in many areas of the State, while cold, wet soils delayed progress in other vicinities. Early planted fields were beginning to emerge. Planting of **soybeans** was proceeding, with progress expected to hasten as farmers wrapped up corn planting. **Sugarbeets** were beginning to emerge. **Winter wheat** has been topdressed, and weed control was being applied. **Alfalfa** was growing steadily with stands eight to twelve inches. **Barley** planting was behind average for this time of year. **Oat** planting was nearly complete, with some emergence. **Rye** varied in development.

Soil moisture for week ending 05/11/08

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	0	15	78	7
Subsoil	0	10	81	9

Crop condition for week ending 05/11/08

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Oats	5	1	24	52	18
Pasture	3	13	23	43	18
Winter Wheat	1	4	23	58	14

Fruit

Fruit growers continued to assess frost damage from the April 30 freeze, as damage varied according to crop development. **Apples** were at king bloom in the southwest and southeast and at pink in the northwest and west central. **Apricots** were in full bloom in the northwest while early shuck splits began in the southwest. **Pears** were in green cluster in the northwest. **Peaches** were in full bloom to petal fall. **Sweet cherry** development varied from full bloom to shuck across the State. **Tart cherries** were in full bloom in the west central and early white bud in the northwest. **Plums** were in bloom to petal fall. **Strawberries** were in bloom in the southwest. **Blueberries** were at late pink bud. **Grapes** were at bud burst.

Vegetables

Cool weather slowed the emergence of the crops planted thus far. **Asparagus** harvest recovered somewhat from the damaging frost early last week in the southwest and volumes are expected to be back to normal by the end of the week. **Cabbage** has made very good growth with adequate moisture and lack of hot weather. **Celery** planting continued on schedule despite the colder temperatures. Early planted **cucumbers** sustained damage in some fields and have been replanted. Progress with **leek**, **lettuce**, **beet** and **radish** planting was good. Likewise, **tomato** transplanting was moving along quickly. **Sweet corn** was 20 to 30 percent planted in the south central. Planting of other crops such as **potatoes** and **turnips** continued while the planting of **onions** has been completed.

Crop progress for week ending 05/11/08

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Asparagus, harvested	13	NA	21	20
Barley, planted	32	16	63	68
Barley, emerged	8	3	27	37
Corn, planted	70	41	52	58
Corn, emerged	12	1	10	12
Oats, planted	82	74	85	87
Oats, emerged	48	35	48	61
Potatoes, planted	47	31	36	NA
Potatoes, emerged	25	10	3	NA
Soybeans, planted	32	8	16	26
Soybeans, emerged	2	0	1	3
Sugarbeets, planted	99	95	94	98



Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/11/08 ¹

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2008	2007	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	68	30		102	212		0.25	1.51	2.73	5.67		
Marquette	65	28		91	175		0.49	1.51	2.41	6.68		
Stephenson	66	26		147	232		0.36	1.83	2.97	6.16		
Western UP	70	24	-3	111	198	135	0.28	1.44	2.55	5.50	3.43	3.37
Cornell	59	29		106	197		0.42	1.13	1.58	4.34		
Sault St Marie	62	30		118	181		0.44	0.98	2.25	4.60		
Eastern UP	65	25	-2	100	179	77	0.44	1.13	1.89	4.35	3.58	3.01
Beulah	74	35		240	224		0.33	1.75	3.88	5.60		
Lake City	70	33		224	204		0.13	0.84	2.30	4.11		
Old Mission	70	36		203	198		0.06	1.35	2.41	4.73		
Pellston	66	27		199	220		0.30	1.12	2.22	3.79		
Northwest	74	27	0	210	202	166	0.17	1.26	2.80	4.63	3.69	2.61
Alpena	65	29		207	193		0.23	1.05	1.32	3.09		
Houghton Lake	68	32		234	219		0.05	0.79	1.44	3.06		
Rogers City	66	32		218	168		0.17	0.98	1.55	3.33		
Northeast	72	29	0	224	207	153	0.16	0.97	1.52	3.30	3.66	2.76
Fremont	75	35		260	259		0.17	0.68	1.84	4.08		
Hart	75	33		250	234		0.03	0.61	3.00	5.41		
Muskegon	74	39		244	244		0.37	0.98	1.78	3.53		
West Central	78	31	0	256	243	199	0.27	0.80	2.25	4.53	4.06	2.67
Alma	77	35		266	268		0.18	0.44	0.71	2.95		
Big Rapids	77	32		266	233		0.22	1.07	2.83	3.42		
Central	77	32	0	261	250	221	0.25	0.81	1.60	3.03	4.16	2.79
Bad Axe	73	37		271	204		0.46	1.19	1.26	2.72		
Pigeon	73	37		261	197		0.26	0.80	0.90	2.06		
Saginaw	74	36		281	248		0.48	0.75	0.88	2.30		
Standish	72	30		242	227		0.47	0.89	1.34	2.87		
East Central	76	30	-1	253	221	209	0.49	0.97	1.12	2.69	3.55	2.63
Fennville	78	37		271	260		1.12	1.70	2.00	4.25		
Grand Rapids	78	38		308	285		0.67	1.16	1.60	4.65		
Holland	80	39		403	303		0.93	3.31	4.12	5.04		
South Bend, IN	80	38		332	346		1.35	1.96	2.40	4.10		
Watervliet	78	38		295	294		1.10	1.89	2.39	4.66		
Southwest	81	31	0	313	294	246	1.02	1.89	2.45	4.76	4.41	3.01
Belding	76	33		271	259		0.41	1.00	1.36	3.93		
Coldwater	78	37		288	278		0.84	1.12	1.35	3.16		
Lansing	78	36		307	268		0.79	0.99	1.12	3.12		
South Central	82	33	-1	292	278	247	0.70	1.00	1.23	3.15	4.21	2.92
Detroit	75	44		333	301		0.85	1.26	1.33	2.08		
Flint	76	35		336	263		0.58	1.15	1.17	2.69		
Romeo	71	38		267	253		1.35	1.95	2.08	3.14		
Tipton	78	39		297	292		0.89	1.36	1.49	2.36		
Toledo, OH	75	41		324	315		1.73	2.35	2.40	3.98		
Southeast	79	35	0	305	283	231	0.96	1.51	1.62	2.85	4.22	2.85

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.